

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Andreas Witzel, et al. \$ Group Art Unit: 2617
Serial No: 10/516,866 \$ Examiner: Kwasi Karikari
Filed: December 3, 2004 \$ Confirmation No: 2414
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Attorney Docket No: P17157-US1
Customer No.: 27045

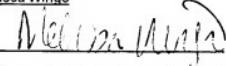
For: OPERATING OF A SWITCHING NODE IN A COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK
COMPRISING BOTH A LAYERED AND A NON-LAYERED ARCHITECTURAL
ENVIRONMENT

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Date: July 28, 2006

Name: Melissa Wingo

Signature: 

Dear Examiner:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated July 3, 2006, the Applicant provisionally elects, with traverse, Group I, comprising claims 1-17 for further prosecution in this application.

The Restriction Requirement is respectfully traversed because Group II claims a (switching) node of a communications network that can fulfill the tasks of both the node as part of a layered architectural environment, e.g. as MSC-Server, and the node as part of a non-layered architectural environment, e.g. as MSC/VLR. The Group I claims include the limitations of the MSC-Server and MSC/VLR in dependent claims 10 and 11. The method claims include the MSC and MSC/VLR limitations.

Appl. No. 10/516,866
Amdt. Dated July 28, 2006
Reply to Office action of July 3, 2006
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In view of the foregoing, the Applicant respectfully requests that the requirement with respect to Group II be withdrawn upon reconsideration.